

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 OES-06 DLOS-06 SAL-01 AGR-05

AGRE-00 CPR-01 SCA-01 /092 W  
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R 201500Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3274

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 6717

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, CGEN, GE, US

SUBJECT: US/GDR RELATIONS: FAREWELL CONVERSATION WITH DR. GEYER

1. DR. HANS MEYER GEYER CALLED ON ME TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14. OUR CONVERSATION LASTED ABOUT 45 MINUTES. I HAD DETERMINED I WOULD NOT RAISE ANY SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES WITH HIM AS I HAD TALKED WITH HONECKER AND WILL BE TALKING WITH OTHER OFFICIALS. THE ONLY QUESTION I ASKED HIM WAS HIS VIEW ON THE PROGRESS OF US/GDR RELATIONS. HIS ANSWER WAS THE USUAL ONE, THAT PROGRESS WAS SLOW. THEN, VOLUNTEERING, HE SPOKE OF SEVERAL ISSUES:

2. FISHERIES: HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE CONCLUSION OF A FISHERIES AGREEMENT WOULD BE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO PROGRESS IN US/GDR RELATIONS, NOT ONLY FOR THE NEEDS OF THE GDR BUT AS IT WOULD BE THE FIRST OFFICIAL US/GDR AGREEMENT.

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3. GRAIN PURCHASES: HE KNEW OF MY MEETING WITH DR. BEIL ON

GRAIN PURCHASES AND THAT I WAS TO MEET BEIL THE NEXT DAY, SEPTEMBER 15, BUT HE DID NOT PURSUE THE SUBJECT, AND I DID NOT RESPOND.

4. CULTURAL AGREEMENTS: DR. GEYER THOUGHT THERE WAS A GOOD POSSIBILITY

FOR IMPROVEMENT IN CULTURAL EXCHANGES, BUT WITHOUT ILLUSTRATION. I RESPONDED BY SAYING THERE WAS A NEED FOR GDR RECIPROCITY.

5. CONSULAR CONVENTION: GEYER RAISED THE CONSULAR CONVENTION ISSUE AND SUBMITTED SOME INTERESTING COMMENTS REPORTED IN SEPTEL.

6. I HAVE COME TO BELIEVE DR. GEYER HAS QUITE A GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF THE US BECAUSE OF HIS SERVICE ON THE AMERICAN DESK AND HIS VISITS TO THE US AND PERHAPS BECAUSE A PART OF HIS EARLIER EDUCATION WAS IN ENGLAND.

7. BEFORE LEAVING DR. GEYER SAID THAT "YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT THE US EMBASSY HAS HAD ACCESS TO OUR OFFICIALS AND, I BELIEVE, BETTER THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY." THIS MAY BE TRUE, EXCLUDING, OF COURSE, THE SOVIET UNION, THE FRG AND THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES. HE ENDED BY SAYING THAT HE HAD ENJOYED HIS VISITS TO THE US AND HOPED THAT THEY WOULD CONTINUE. HE WOULD LIKE FOR HIS WIFE TO ACCOMPANY HIM, BUT THE GDR COULD NOT AFFORD THE COST AND COULD NOT SET A PRECEDENT, SINCE ALL WIVES WOULD LIKE TO GO. GEYER, AS HE OFTEN DOES, OFFERED OTHER BITS OF INFORMATION, SAYING THAT THE CENTRAL BANK PROVIDES FOR ALL THEIR EXPENSES AND PROVIDES A SMALL SUM FOR POCKET MONEY.

ANY FUNDS DERIVED BY A GDR CITIZEN, SUCH AS FROM ESTATES, MUST BE PAID THROUGH THE CENTRAL BANK. THE BENEFICIARY WOULD BE PAID AN EQUIVALENT AMOUNT IN MARKS AND IN SOME INSTANCES A PART IN DOLLARS, FOR PERSONAL USE. GEYER SAID THE GDR NEEDS HARD CURRENCY.

8. DURING OUR CONVERSATION DR. GEYER EXPANDED, AS HE HAS IN THE PAST, ON THE CHARACTER OF THE MEMBERSHIP

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OF THE PARTY. IT IS MADE UP, HE SAID, OF THE TRADITIONAL WORKING CLASS MARXISTS OFTEN OF SEVERAL GENERATIONS, SUCH AS THE GENERAL SECRETARY AND OTHERS IN LEADERSHIP; THE INTELLECTUALS, MANY COMING FROM MARXIST FAMILIES OF SEVERAL GENERATIONS, IN WHICH HE CLAIMS MEMBERSHIP, AND THEN THE YOUNGER MEMBERS WHO HAVE DEVELOPED AND HAVE BEEN EDUCATED AS FIRM MARXIST-LENINISTS. COOPER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, BANK LAW, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BERLIN06717  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760355-0832  
**From:** BERLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760943/aaaabkhf.tel  
**Line Count:** 115  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US/GDR RELATIONS: FAREWELL CONVERSATION WITH DR. GEYER  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ETRD, CGEN, GC, US, (GEYER, HANS MEYER)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006